![British Council logo] BRITISH COUNCIL

TeachingEnglish

Climate action in language education

Workbook

Your reflective journal and additional resources

Foreword

We're delighted you've chosen to continue your professional development with TeachingEnglish training and look forward to learning with you over the coming weeks.

In this workbook you'll find additional learning materials to complement your course, places to note ideas of interest, encouragement and guidance in applying them within your teaching practice. Whether you prefer to save and update it on your device, to keep handwritten notes, or use it as a prompt for your on-the-go reflection, do what works for you. We hope you and your learners find it beneficial.

If you haven't signed up for the free course, go to the course training page to enrol.

Happy learning.

The British Council open learning team.

www.teachingenglish.org.uk

Contents

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Your learning goals, your course

Learn to integrate environmental issues in English language teaching and develop the skills you need to take and sustain meaningful and impactful action to protect the environment in your local context.

During this TeachingEnglish training, you'll engage with learning content in four modules, supported by a series of live events and extra learning content in our Facebook community. You'll find practical support and encouragement from course tutors and other members of the British Council courses for teachers global learning community as you work to introduce new teaching ideas within your classroom.

Just as every classroom is unique, so is your learning journey. Ensure you're heading in the right direction by reflecting upon and noting your reasons for taking this course and learning goals. Keeping these in mind will help you focus on the most beneficial content and discussions for you.

Your goals and reasons for learning

Introduce yourself and your learning goals by replying to the welcome post.

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Your learning tools

Online learning modules

After completing the introductory Getting started module, work through three modules, each exploring a different area of teaching and learning. Involving an average of 12 hours of study, this course blends theory, practical teaching suggestions and case studies that explore new ways of teaching. Repeat, return to and review activities as often as you like before the end of your course. Learn how to access the online learning modules by visiting the courses page on TeachingEnglish.

Courses for teachers community

Join course tutors and other educators working on their professional development in our supportive, Facebook-based learning community. Gain access to a wide selection of additional learning resources and engage in developmental discussions while getting the support and encouragement you need to successfully bring ideas from the course into your classroom. Access all the discussions and content related to your specific course in the Guides section on the community Facebook page.

Live events

Attend live community events and webinars led by expert educators, or watch the recordings on the community Facebook page. Focusing on different aspects of your course, these sessions provide you with an opportunity to seek answers to your questions - and share your own expertise and insights. Recordings of all live sessions are available on TeachingEnglish and on the community Facebook page.

Workbook

Use this workbook to record useful course and community content, questions you'd like to ask in the community, links to resources, or to note ideas from any of the extra resources or recorded events. Save a version online or print the workbook - or both.

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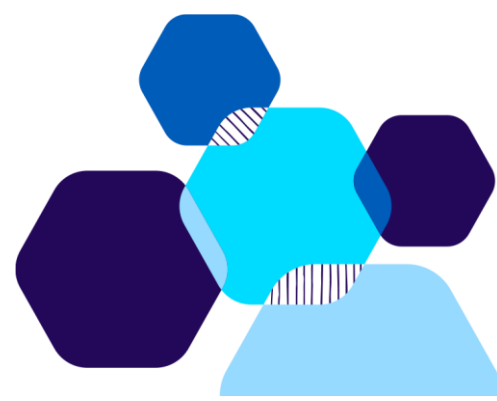# Module 1: Introducing environmental issues

Overview

In this module, you'll explore why environmental issues should be a constant topic in your language classes and what benefits learners can get from discussing these topics. Then you'll look at how you can present key environmental terms and concepts to learners and different ways of introducing these topics you have at your disposal.

By the end of the module, you'll be able to:

- explain why it's important to include environmental issues in your classes
- describe the factors that motivate you to include environmental issues in your classes
- identify what benefits teaching environmental issues can bring to your learners
- identify key terms and concepts related to climate crisis and environmental issues
- explore the differences between global and local issues
- research and prioritise subject-specific terms and concepts according to your context
- analyse how to include environmental issues in your classes
- evaluate online resources about the environment to use with your learners
- reflect on the benefits of a proactive attitude to environmental issues.

Further reading, teaching, and learning resources

Type	Resource description (tap/click to open)
Use	Pack with activity ideas, lesson plans and tips on exploring climate change in the classroom.
Listen	Podcast exploring the integration of global issues in creative language classrooms.
Listen	Podcast discussing the UN's sustainable development goals (SDGs) within language classrooms.

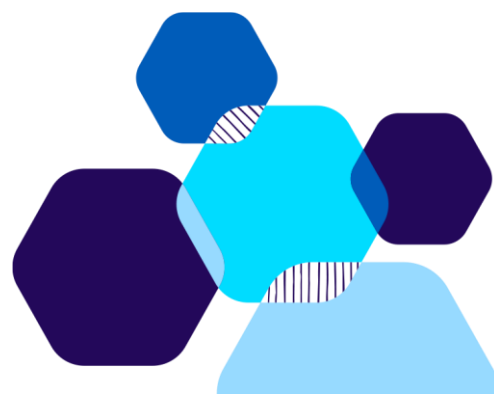|	
Listen	Podcast: The Climate Connection - episode 1: what the ELT Community is, and should be doing.
Listen	Podcast: The Climate Connection - episode 2: the role of language in addressing the climate crisis.
Listen	Podcast: The Climate Connection - episode 6: how institutions can promote climate literacy.
Read	Publication with teaching ideas for raising awareness of the UN's SDGs.
Watch	2017 Panel discussion on the UN's SDGs in the language classroom.
Watch	2022 talk on storytelling; raising awareness of environmental action and developing language skills.
Watch	Panel event considering how climate change is affecting girls' education around the world.
Watch	Talk exploring the research strand of the Climate Action in Language Education project.
Watch	Webinar exploring Climate Action in Language Education resources.
Watch	Time-lapse video showing global change.

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Your learning

Which new ideas in Module 1 are most useful for you? Note them here together with any questions you'd like to ask in the British Council courses for teachers learning community.

Describe three things you learned from...

Your online module

Resources you found and discussions in the course community

Extra resources and recorded events

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Plan it

> **Describe one thing you will change in your teaching. Why have you chosen it?**

> **What problems might happen when you try to make this change?**

> **What could you do to solve those problems?**

Share your plans in the Facebook community **in this post**.

Teach it

> **Try it out and come back here to reflect on the experience. What did you learn?**

Share your reflections in the Facebook community **in this post**.

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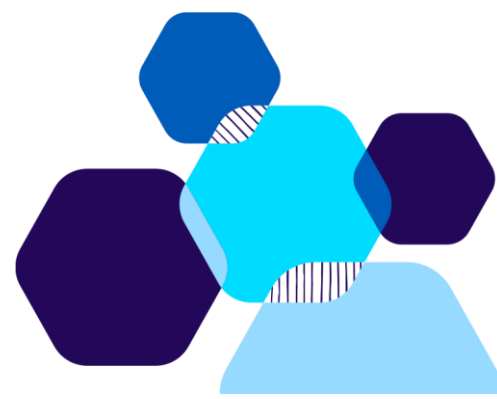# Module 2: Lessons with a sustainability focus

Overview

In this module, you'll look at the barriers that stop you focusing on environmental issues, ways to overcome them, how to plan lessons with a focus on environmental issues and ways to effectively teach these lessons.

By the end of this module, you'll be able to:

- describe the barriers to a focus on sustainability in the classroom
- identify opportunities for language practice in lessons with a sustainability focus.
- consider principles for planning lessons that include sustainability
- evaluate how the principles apply to your teaching context
- evaluate a lesson that brings environmental issues into the language classroom.
- identify challenges in the classroom when including environmental issues
- evaluate techniques used in part of a lesson that includes environmental issues
- apply techniques for including environmental issues in your teaching context.

Further reading, teaching, and learning resources

Type	Resource description (tap/click to open)
Use	A bank of thirty activities, for low resource contexts based on ten climate change themes.
Use	Lesson plan for primary learners exploring the theme of sustainable living in relation to transport.
Use	Lesson plan for primary learners to raise awareness of environmental issues.
Use	Lesson plan for secondary learners exploring the climate crisis.

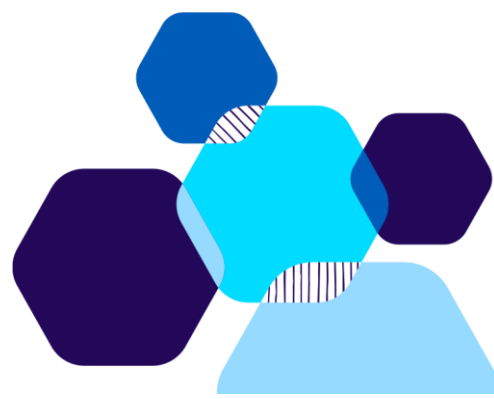|	
Use	Lesson plan for secondary learners exploring ways of reducing their impact on climate change.
Use	Lesson plan for secondary learners about sustainability, the environment and alternative energy.
Use	Lesson plan for secondary learners: climate change's impact on those living on a low-lying island.
Use	Series of 12 classroom-based and online lesson plans addressing issues of sustainability.
Listen	Podcast: The Climate Connection - episode 3: effective, climate positive teaching approaches.
Listen	Podcast: The Climate Connection - episode 4: CLIL.
Listen	Podcast: The Climate Connection - episode 5: making classrooms environmentally positive spaces.
Listen	Podcast: The Climate Connection - episode 9: the global climate crisis in language textbooks.
Read	Practical suggestions for exploring climate change with music.
Watch	Webinar with practical ideas and materials to give every lesson a sustainable spin.

Your learning

Which new ideas in Module 2 are most useful for you? Note them here together with any questions you'd like to ask in the *British Council courses for teachers learning community*.

Describe three things you learned from...

Your online module

Resources you found and discussions in the course community

Extra resources and recorded events

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Plan it

Describe one thing you will change in your teaching. Why have you chosen it?

What problems might happen when you try to make this change?

What could you do to solve those problems?

Share your plans in the Facebook community in this post.

Teach it

Try it out and come back here to reflect on the experience. What did you learn?

Share your reflections in the Facebook community in this post.

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Module 3: Making sustainability part of your learners' lives

Overview

The aim of this module is to understand the different methods that you as a language teacher can use to help fight the climate emergency in ways that go beyond the classroom and to provide you with some of the tools you'll need to act.

By the end of this module, you'll be able to:

- explain different levels of community action
- categorise projects and activities according to those levels of community action
- explain the benefits of doing community projects
- choose a project for your class and your community that helps protect the living planet
- design a local environmentally themed community project with your learners
- adapt the project to your local situation
- help your learners plan and run the project.
- reflect on and evaluate the effectiveness of your project
- continue your professional development in sustainability
- join and participate in your own professional development community.

Further reading, teaching, and learning resources

Type	Resource description (tap/click to open)
Listen	Podcast: The Climate Connection - episode 10: language, the climate crisis and social justice.
Listen	Podcast: The Climate Connection - episode 7: how language shapes our environment.
Listen	Podcast: The Climate Connection - episode 8: eco-anxiety; understanding and managing it.
Play	Climate-related games and interactive resources for learners (by NASA).
Read	A collection of poems about climate change.

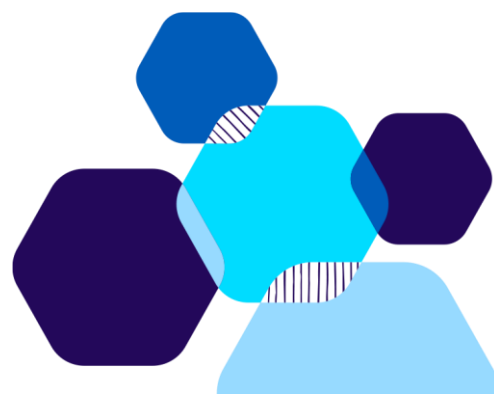|	
Read	Article detailing a newspaper's climate-related changes to its style guide.
Read	Article on Rufai Zakari - creator of art that shows the beautiful potential of recycled materials.
Use	The Climate Change Performance Index: tracking countries' climate protection performance.
Watch	2022 panel discussion about international partnerships and climate education in the classroom.
Watch	2022 talk on change-makers and learner involvement in finding solutions within their communities.
Watch	Talk about eco-literacy; what it is, its importance, and how to develop learners' eco-literacy skills.

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Your learning

Which new ideas in Module 3 are most useful for you? Note them here together with any questions you'd like to ask in the British Council courses for teachers learning community.

Describe three things you learned from…

Your online module

Resources you found and discussions in the course community

Extra resources and recorded events

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Plan it

Describe one thing you will change in your teaching. Why have you chosen it?

What problems might happen when you try to make this change?

What could you do to solve those problems?

Share your plans in the Facebook community **in this post**.

Teach it

Try it out and come back here to reflect on the experience. What did you learn?

Share your reflections in the Facebook community **in this post**.

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Your action plan

Make an action plan focused on applying learning from this the course. Complete any sentences that help you do this. Come back and reflect on what happened in class.

In the next two weeks, I am going to...

Over the next two months, I'm going to...

Before the end of the school year, I'm going to...

Next school year, I want to...

Well done — you've made it to the end of the course! We hope you've found it useful, and you'll join us on another very soon.

Learn more about other free teacher training courses with the British Council at: https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/training

Explore our framework for teacher knowledge and skills for inspiration, support and materials: https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/professional-development/teachers

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